

Serving the parishes of Clavering, Langley, Arkesden,
Wicken Bonhunt, Manuden and Berden

Newsletter for the week beginning 22nd June 2026 (22/26)



Welcome to our
benefice newsletter.
I am Reverend Gary
Fleming, Vicar to the
Clavering Benefice.
A group of six, stunning
rural parishes in the
north-west of Essex.

UNCOMMON COMPASSION

BY REVEREND GARY FLEMING

Have you ever needed to be really listening to. It's a rare skill and one that we maybe seem to need to focus on more in our communities. In fact we find that Jesus modelled listening in a rare and intense way. He sat with a woman at a well in the middle of the scorching sun and also with those despised by society for a lunch. Jesus realised that although he had much to say and lots to share, listening to those he has come to save was important. And they generally felt that they had been valued. Many times in the past few weeks people have

spoken with me about how they feel their community is fairing, particularly in relation to how well we get along together as neighbours. What was apparent to me was that those who spoke with me just wanted time and space to talk about how they felt. About their fears and worries and also a sadness and grief over what they felt about changes affecting the place where they live. It was a lot easier to engage in a conversation once people felt listened to and heard. I think that is why Jesus listened to people, he gave space for people to feel heard and valued so that they might then feel more receptive to his message. Its not the whole story, but certainly an important part of it. To listen with compassion as Jesus did, even to those we may not agree with. Amen

Services

Sunday 21st June

9.30am - Holy Communion, Clavering

9.30am - Holy Communion, Wicken Bonhunt

9.30am - Morning Worship, Berden

11.00am - Holy Communion, Langley

11.00am - Holy Communion, Manuden

Normal midweek services are:

Wednesday's

9.00am - Holy Communion, Clavering
(A shorter said service of 25 minutes)

Thursday's

9.00am - Morning Prayer, Manuden

4.30pm - Evening Prayer, Wicken Bonhunt

Sunday 28th June

9.30am - BCP 1662 Holy Communion, Langley

11.00am - Holy Communion, Arkesden

Readings

Sunday 21st June (Trinity 3 - Green)

Genesis 21:8-21

Matthew 10:24-39

Sunday the 28th June (Trinity 4 - Green)

Genesis 22:1-14

Matthew 10:40-end

Prayers

Collect for the Third Sunday of Trinity

Almighty God,
you have broken the tyranny of sin
and have sent the Spirit of your Son
into our hearts whereby we call you
Father:
give us grace to dedicate our freedom
to your service, that we and all
creation may be brought to the
glorious liberty of the children of God;
through Jesus Christ your Son our
Lord, who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

Benefice Prayers

We pray this week for our church community in Clavering. We pray for all at the school. For the headteacher Mrs Alsop, for the teaching staff, support staff, students and parents.

We pray for the staff at the local shop, for all who support people in the local gym and help people to maintain their health or recovery from injury and poor health.

We pray for all in the local business and pubs who support local community and fellowship. Amen



Bible Study

Having spent some time reading through the Gospel of Mark, the Bible Study group will now take a short break and return on the 10th of September and will run from 10.30-11.30 in the Clavering Christian Centre. The new format will look at biblical themes starting with a number of sessions on biblical places and geography. What happened where and when? we will be using videos, maps, film and imagery to go through the landscape of biblical lands. Please do join us for this relaxed session at which we also enjoy tea, coffee and biscuits. No need to book or attend every session



Stride by Stride Walking Group

The Stride by Stride walking group is a friendly and welcoming group of people who walk for friendship and fellowship. We normally walk for about 1.5 hours and finish at a place where we can enjoy refreshments. Please do join us. No need to book just turn up and we go whatever the weather. Coming up dates are:

June 26th - Starting from St Mary's Church, Arkesden.

July 31st - Starting from St Mary's Church, Manuden
PLEASE NOTE NO WALK IN AUGUST

September 25th - Starting from St Johns Church, Langley

Contact Reverend Gary Fleming if you would like more details

OPEN DOOR YOUTH CLUB

Our next Senior (Ages 11-16) Youth Club meeting will be the 24th June.

If you would like more information about the youth club please do get in touch with me, Reverend Gary Fleming

GREAT NEWS CLAVERING CHRISTIAN CENTRE REMODELLING PROJECT

JOIN US IN THE CHRISTIAN CENTRE ON THE 9TH JULY AT 7PM FOR AN OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED PLANNED CHANGES TO THE CHRISTIAN CENTRE TO SUPPORT THIS IMPORTANT HOME FOR CHRISTIAN MISSION WITHIN THE BENEFICE.

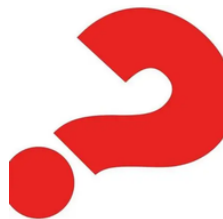
WE HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN ATTRACTING A GRANT FROM THE URC FOR THE MODERNISATION OF THE KITCHEN AND SOME OTHER IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CENTRE. HOWEVER, WE NEED TO ASK FOR THE COMMUNITY TO SUPPORT US IN MEETING THE FULL COST.

EVERY LITTLE HELPS AND WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL BE INSPIRED TO OFFER YOUR SUPPORT TO THIS EXCITING COMMUNITY PROJECT

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

What's on

June 20th 6.30pm Summer BBQ at Langley. See poster below
Langley Lunches - are held every month on the 4th Wednesday of the month. Please contact Liz Cable to book on:
Phone: 01763258043 or 07519741774
Email: langleychurch@gmail.com
Mondays. 9-10.30 am - Mums and Chums, held every Monday in term time in the church in Manuden



**Have you held long unanswered questions about faith?
Are you curious about faith matters?**

Starting September the 8th, we will be running a series of evening meetings to explore faith through conversation. Supported by well-produced and good-quality materials through the Alpha program. To find out more, please do contact me, Reverend Gary Fleming.

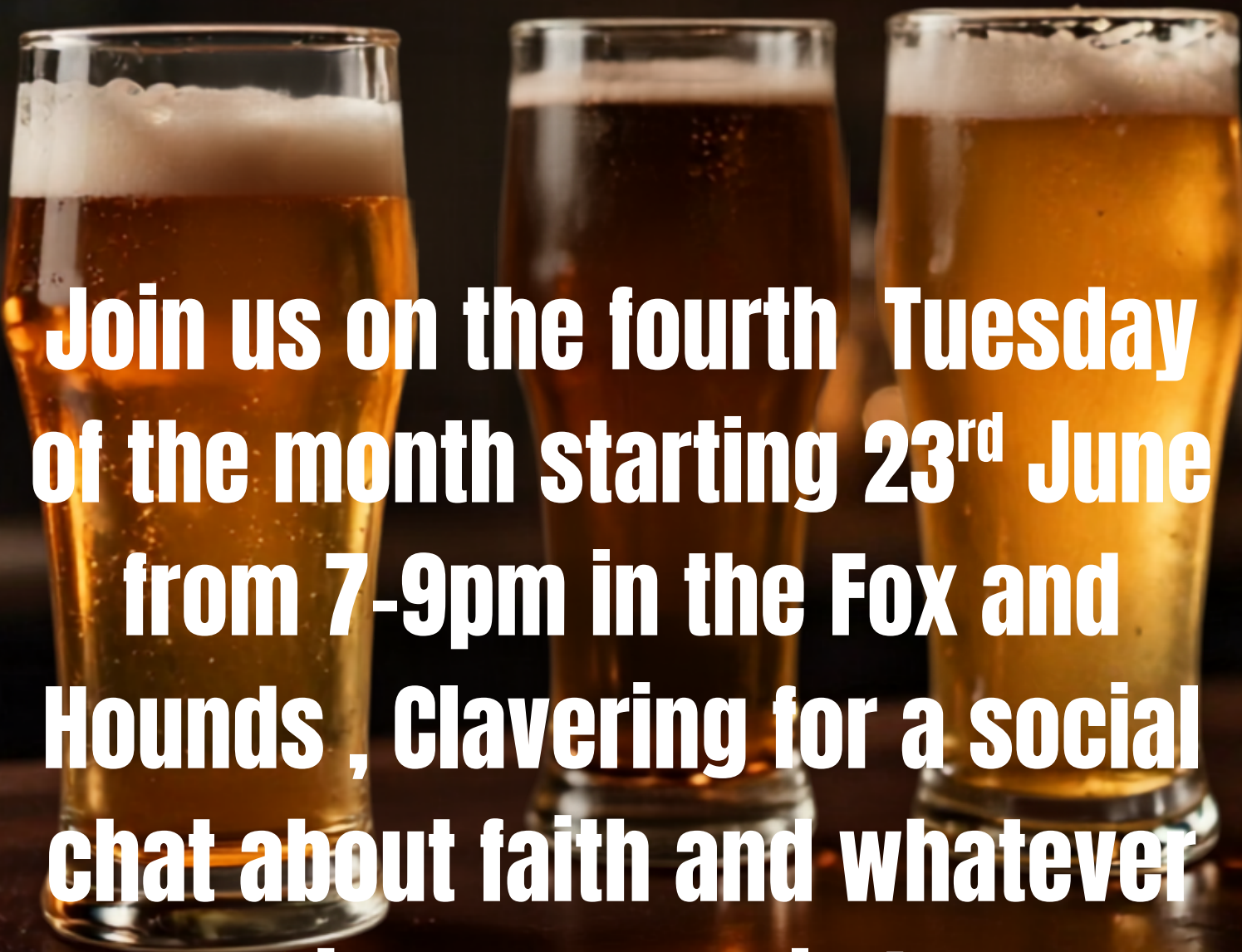
How to get in touch

If you would like to receive this weekly notice sheet by email or have your event publicised in it, please send details to the benefice office email which is ClaveringBenefice@outlook.com.

Office admin asst: Jane Cowley working from home.

For pastoral or service related matters, please contact Reverend Gary Fleming on 07491 402273 or email on revdgaryfleming@outlook.com (Vicar does not work Mondays)

PINTS OF VIEW

Three tall glasses of beer with a thick head of foam are arranged in a row on a dark, reflective surface. The beer is a golden-amber color. The background is dark and out of focus, with some warm, bokeh light spots.

**Join us on the fourth Tuesday
of the month starting 23rd June
from 7-9pm in the Fox and
Hounds , Clavering for a social
chat about faith and whatever
is on your mind.
Hosted by the Vicar.**

Late Summer Benefice BBQ

***£5 per
person to
cover meat
portions***

***Please bring
your own
chair &
alcohol. Soft
drinks, tea
& coffee
provided***

**SATURDAY, 12TH
SEPTEMBER 2026**

START AT 3PM UNTIL 7PM

VENUE
VICARAGE,
54 PELHAM ROAD,
CLAVERING.
CB11 4PQ

**BOOK YOUR PLACE BY NOTIFYING JANE COWLEY AT:
CLAVERINGBENEFICE@OUTLOOK.COM**

BERDEN

Open Gardens

Sunday 28th June 2026

2 - 6pm

Plants from £1

Cafes

Live Music

Morris Dancing

Bee Keeping

Vintage Bus rides

Raffle

lots more!

Plus

Berden's Open Gardens include,
Little London
& Berden Priory's
17th Century water tread wheel

Passport to all gardens only £5 per adult
Children under 16 free

FREE car parking

to find out more please

E: john.tippett@btopenworld.com T: 01279 777446



"Telling the stories of St Nicholas, Berden"



Thanks to National Lottery players

<https://berden.org.uk/events/>

Raising funds for St Nicholas Church, Berden, CM23 1AJ - Reg Charity no: 1216100



Open Gardens Manuden

Sunday 21st June

Lots of gardens to visit

1 - 5 pm £5.00

Children free



**In aid of
Village Organisations**

**Featuring Manuden's popular
Classic & Sports Car show**



Midsummer Barbecue

Saturday 20th June

6.30pm for 7pm



at



The Want Cottage

The Want

In aid of Langley Church

&

Friends of Langley Church

Tickets £20

Bar & Raffle

Contact: Liz Cable 07519 741774

langleychurch@gmail.com